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19 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. R.J. Smith

SUBJECT : Questions from Mr. Rostow

1. Art McCafferty called me, ostensibly at Rostow's behest, to pose the following questions which Mr. Rostow would like addressed and answered as quickly as possible:

1) What is our estimate of the number of Communist forces used in the "first wave" of Tet attacks?

2) What is our estimate of the composition of these forces (i. e., main force, provincial units, local force, etc.)?

3) What proportion of North Vietnamese fillers were there in these first wave forces?

4) What is our present estimate of the composition of the body of prisoners captured so far as a result of the Tet offensive (again, what is wanted is force component: Main, local, guerrilla, etc.)?

5) To what extent and in what places did the "urban infrastructure" surface itself and where was the urban infrastructure damaged as a result?

6) What forces do the Communists have available that have not yet been committed to the attack? (Rostow said General Taylor had told him I had given a good briefing on this at PFIAB. What Taylor was referring to was Colonel Morrissey's briefing, the substance of which I can get from him.)

2. The above questions have already been addressed under various guises in several publications. If you concur, I would propose that OCI undertake to prepare a memorandum of response with assistance from my people and Ed Allen's staff. If this meets with your approval, would you please notify Messrs. Godfrey and Allen and myself accordingly.

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George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

cc: Mr. Godfrey  
Mr. Allen

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